

Judging alone from the numerous 'clear' expositions of the nature and causes of cholera, that have been so confidently presented to the public within the last eighteen years, and the 'almost invariably successful' modes of treatment which have been announced with becoming gravity, and authenticated by the results of extensive experience, we should certainly conclude that this disease, the prevalence of which so lately inspired all classes of society with alarm, and resisted the best directed curative measures, is now to be ranked among the best known and most easily and certainly managed of any upon our nosological charts. Were such the case in fact, happy would it be for the human family!

That we are now much better acquainted with the nature and exciting causes of cholera, than we were previously to its occurrence, as an epidemic, in Europe and this country, is unquestionably true. And that we are better able now than formerly to arrest its fatal termination, and in a far larger number of cases, is likewise certain. But while we acknowledge that the disease is divested of much of its mystery, and is more completely under the control of the physician than it was on its first appearance in India, we fear that it would be very far from the truth to say that we know enough of its pathology and proper management to be able to rescue from death upwards of nine-tenths of those attacked by it in its most aggravated grades, as Dr. B. would lead us to believe was his good fortune. Were such the case, the disease might truly be said to be entirely divested of its terrors.

We do not conceive it to be necessary to enter into an analysis of the work before us, nor even to present a general outline of the author's views and therapeutical directions. To do either in such a manner as to enable our readers properly to understand the subject in all its bearings, would require more space than we conceive its importance merits—more especially as the work appears to us to have been written rather with the view of calling the attention of the public to the pre-eminent skill of its author as a cholera physician, than for the more legitimate purpose of instructing the medical profession.

D. F. C.

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ART. XXVII. *Revista Medica Fluminense, publicada pela Sociedade de Medicina do Rio Janeiro.* Nos. 1 to 5, for April to August, 1835, inclusive. Rio Janeiro, 1835.

This well conducted, but unpretending periodical appears to have been undertaken to supply the place of a weekly journal which had previously existed at Rio Janeiro, but was discontinued for the want of sufficient patronage.

Each number contains about forty-eight octavo pages, and is divided into three parts. The first presents an account of the acts and deliberations of the Medical Society of Rio Janeiro; the second, memoirs and original papers and cases, and articles translated from foreign periodicals, &c. The third part is devoted to critical analyses, extracts from medical publications, articles devoted to the accessory sciences, varieties, notices of learned societies and the premiums offered by them; bibliographical notices, correspondence, and announcements of new medical publications.

Besides the proceedings of the Medical Society, the numbers before us contain, in the original department, a history of a case of volvulus cured by the introduction of a sound per anum by Dr. Meirelles. A memoir on tobacco by Dr. Maia. A description of two native plants by Dr. Xavier. On the miasma of cholera by Dr. Candido. Relation of a case in which there occurred an ulcer penetrating the aorta at its origin with the heart, giving rise to an effusion of blood into the cavity of the pericardium, by Dr. Pimentel. Topography of the city of Recife, in the Province of Pernambuco, &c. &c.

The contents of these five numbers have impressed us with a very favourable opinion of the state of medical science at Rio Janeiro.

D. F. C.

ART. XXVIII.—*Mémoire sur le Cholera-Morbus, compliqué d'une Epidémie de Fièvre Jaune, qui a régné simultanément à la Nouvelle Orléans en 1832.* Par M. MICHEL HALPHEN, Docteur Médecin à la Nouvelle Orléans. Svo. pp. 192. Paris, 1833.

*Observations sur le Cholera-Morbus qui a régné à la Nouvelle Orléans en 1833 et en 1834; faisant suite au Mémoire sur le Cholera-Morbus de 1832.* Par M. MICHEL HALPHEN, Docteur Médecin, &c. Svo. pp. 182. Paris, 1835.

*A Memoir upon Cholera Morbus complicated with Yellow Fever, as it prevailed in New Orleans during the epidemic of 1832.*

*Observations upon Cholera Morbus as it appeared in New Orleans, during the years 1833 and 1834; being a Sequel to the foregoing Memoir.* By M. M. HALPHEN, M. D., of New Orleans.

These two works of M. Halphen present an extremely interesting history of the epidemic cholera, which prevailed at New Orleans, during the years 1832, 1833, and 1834. They embrace, likewise, the detailed account of one hundred and twenty-three cases of the disease, which fell under the care of the author; the whole presenting a very full clinical exposition of its mode of invasion, symptoms, progress, and termination, together with the plan of treatment which, according to his statement, he has found almost invariably successful.

The Observations of M. Halphen are the more interesting, from the fact of the cholera having prevailed at New Orleans, in conjunction with an epidemic of yellow fever; many of the patients being affected with both diseases either simultaneously or successively.

The author presents, in the first place, a view of every important particular connected with those localities, where the two epidemics prevailed most extensively. Pointing out succinctly the nature of the soil, climate, water, buildings, public and private establishments; together with the food of the inhabitants, their modes of life, and the defects in the sanitary regulations of the city, and in their administration. The period and manner in which the cholera made its appearance in New Orleans, are then considered.

Towards the decline of the summer of 1832, there suddenly occurred, we are told, in that city, numerous well characterized cases of malignant remittent fever, of gastro-cephalitis and of enteritis. On the 22nd of September a few scattered cases of yellow fever were observed. The cases increas-